

# DES PLAINES RIVER TRAIL, SOUTH EXTENSION PLANNING STUDY

Steering Committee  
Kick-off meeting  
9.14.18



# Meeting agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- CMAP & LTA Project overview
  - LTA application submitted by FPDCC in 2017
  - Project goals & objectives
  - Steering committee role
- Initial findings
  - Maps, field survey/bike tour
- Area-specific feedback from Steering Committee (small group activity)
- Next steps



## About CMAP

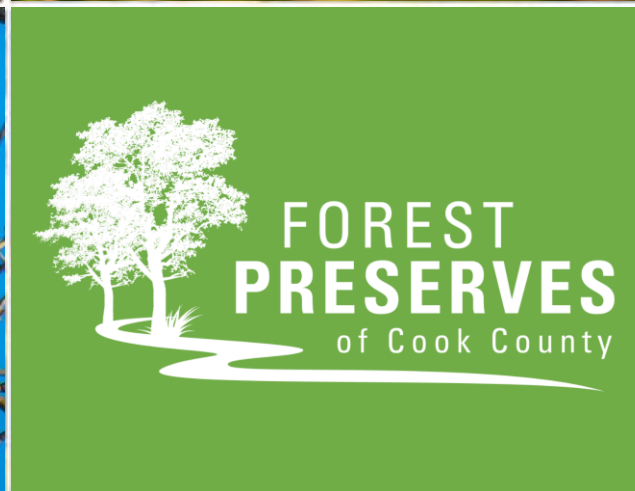
- Regional planning agency created in 2005
- Serves the seven-county NE Illinois region, with a geographically representative Board
- Created the GO TO 2040 plan in 2010
- About to adopt update, ON TO 2050



## Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program

- Implements GO TO 2040 / ON TO 2050 by providing direct planning assistance to local communities
- CMAP has issued RFPs annually since 2011 (except 2016)
- To date, more than 144 completed, about 29 currently underway, and 36 have not started

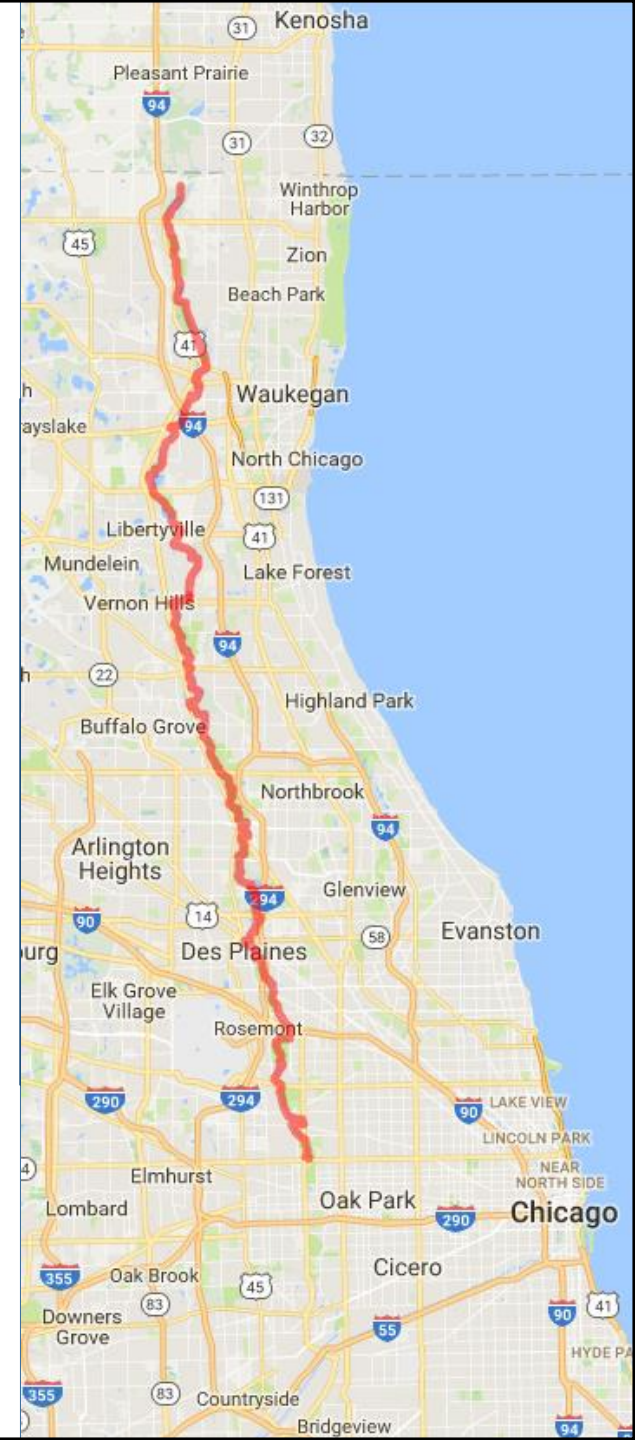






# Project Background

- Des Plaines River Trail runs ~55 miles from River Grove north to the Wisconsin border
- ~6 mile gap in trail exists between North Ave. and Ogden Ave.
- Gap includes connections to the Illinois Prairie Path and Salt Creek Greenway
- FPDCC submitted LTA application in June 2017 to study trail alignment between 26<sup>th</sup> St. and Ogden Ave.
- Project was approved by the CMAP Board in October 2017 (as part of 34 new LTA projects)
- Scope of work developed with feedback from FPDCC
- MOU signed in June, 2018
- Project aligns with broader efforts of CMAP (regional trail planning) and Active Transportation Alliance-led Trail Connect Chicagoland and Des Plaines River & Trail Coalition



# What are the objectives of the Des Plaines River, South Extension Planning Study?

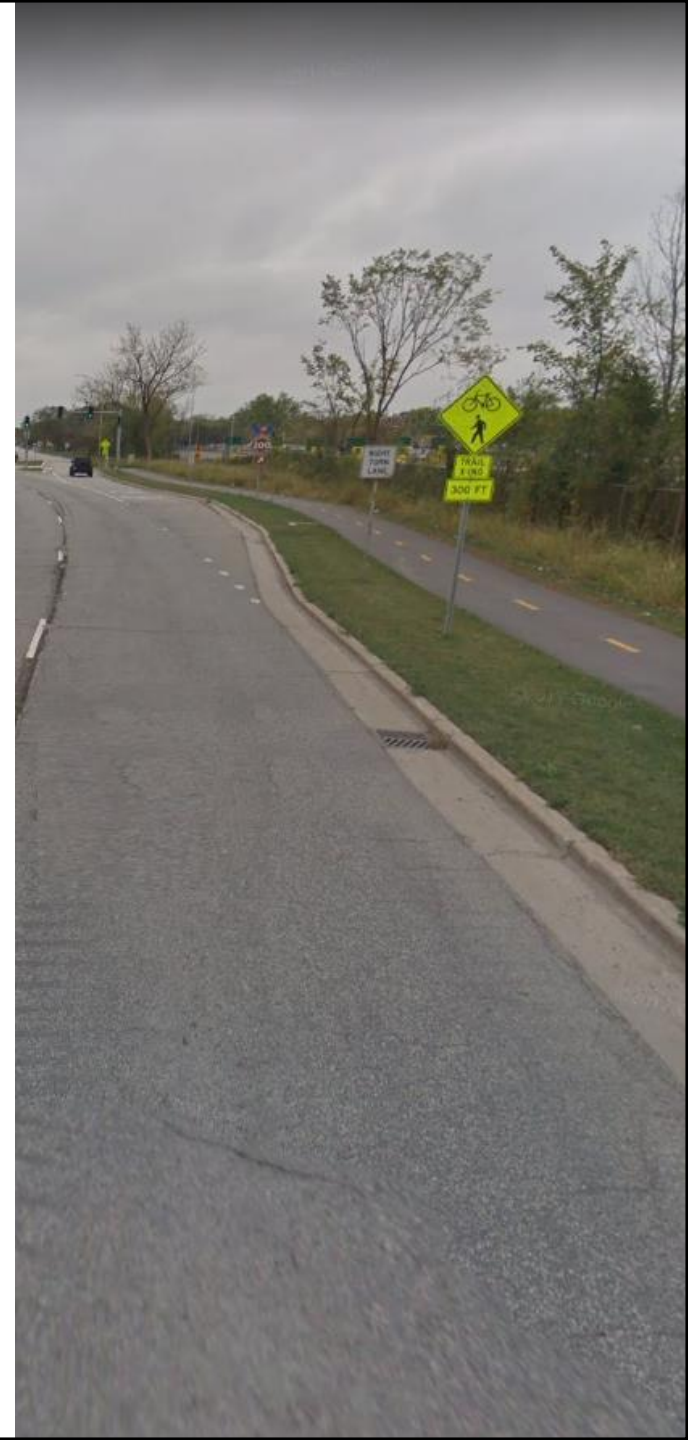
- **Identify** potential trail alignments
- **Evaluate** feasibility of identified alignments
- **Conduct outreach and engage** key stakeholders
- **Select a preferred alternative** to advance toward implementation



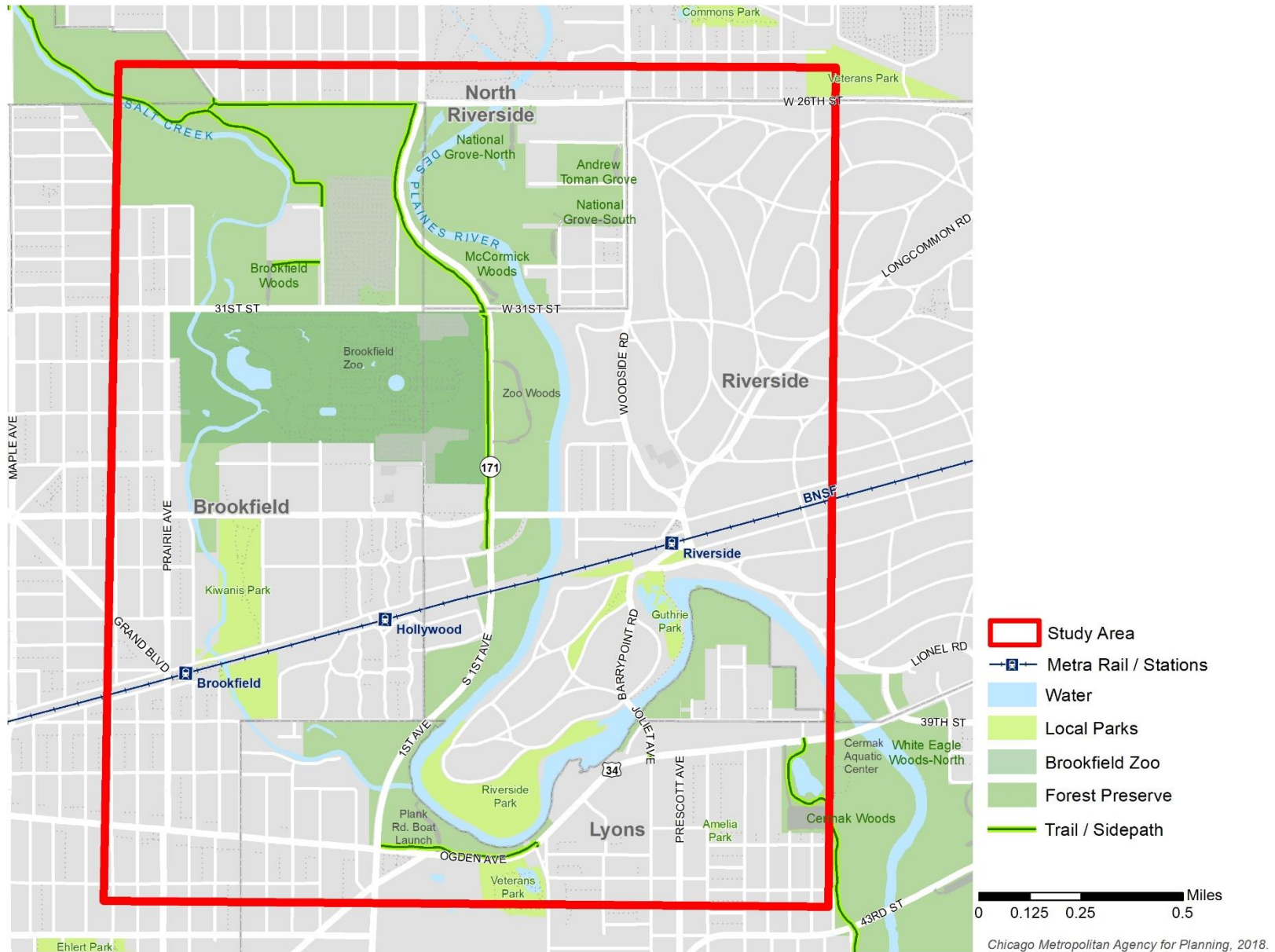


# Role of the Steering Committee

- Guide and inform the study process
- Review and provide input on key deliverables:
  - Existing Conditions Report/Memo
  - Route evaluation criteria
  - Study Report
- Attend 4-5 Steering Committee meetings during the 18-month process
- Assist with community outreach



# Project Study Area



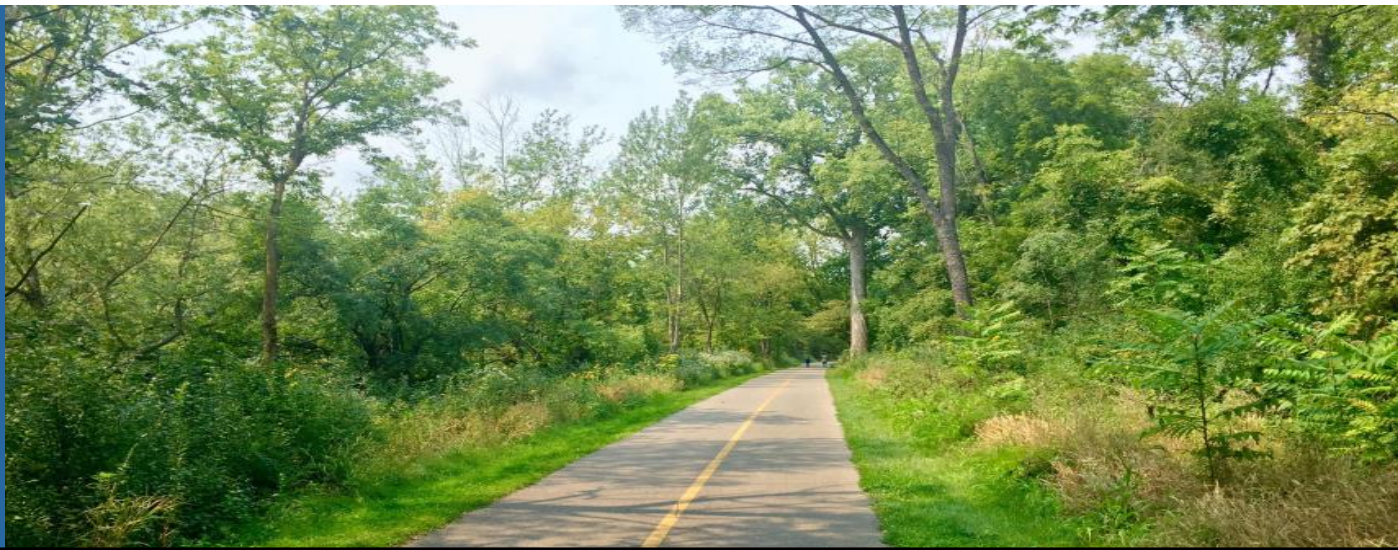


# Scope of Work

## Phase 1: Project orientation (June – August)

- Meetings and discussions with FPDCC staff
- Formation of “Core Project Team” – FPDCC, CMAP, Brookfield, Riverside, North Riverside, Lyons (July 17)
- Project administration
- Project website:

<https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs/LTA/des-plaines-river-trail-study>



# Scope of Work

## Phase 2: Assess existing conditions (July – December)

- Core team bicycle tour of study area (Aug. 7)
- Initial Steering Committee meeting
- Data collection and analysis
- Key stakeholder interviews and other outreach (Sept.-Nov.)

***Deliverable:*** *An Existing Conditions report or memorandum which will include maps, charts, as well as discussion of key issues and opportunities.*



# Scope of Work

## Phase 3: Identification and Evaluation of Alternative Alignments (October – June 2019)

- Development and detailed analysis of potential routes
- Development of evaluation criteria
- Ongoing outreach and stakeholder input
  - Focus group meeting
  - Presence at community or stakeholder events, festivals, and meetings
  - Interactive online / intercept survey
  - Public meeting (March)

***Deliverable:*** A presentation or memorandum identifying potential routes and listing proposed evaluation criteria.

# Scope of Work

- **Phase 4: Draft Study Report (March – Aug. 2019)**

***Deliverable:** The study report will be a summary of the planning process and evaluation methods and results, with support from graphics and maps. It also will include language concerning implementation.*

- **Phase 5: Final Report and Implementation Coordination**

- Public Open House (***Summer/Fall 2019***)
- Coordination meetings re implementation (***Summer/Fall 2019***)

***Deliverable:** Final plan document.*



# Project Timeline

- Five phases to be completed over 12-18 months

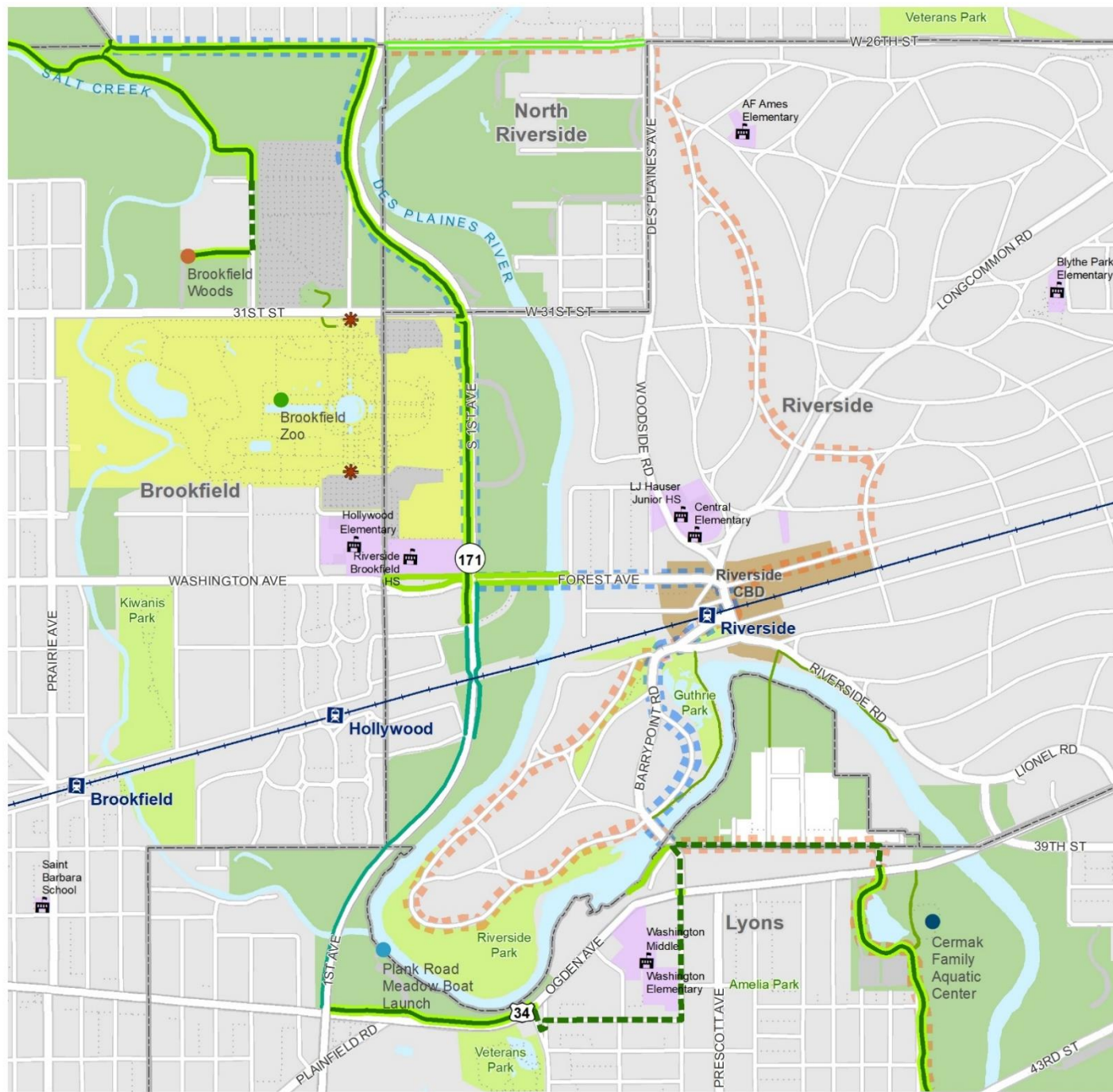




- Core Team members participated
- Goal was to get a “handlebar” view of study area and preliminarily assess some key locations and suspected issues.

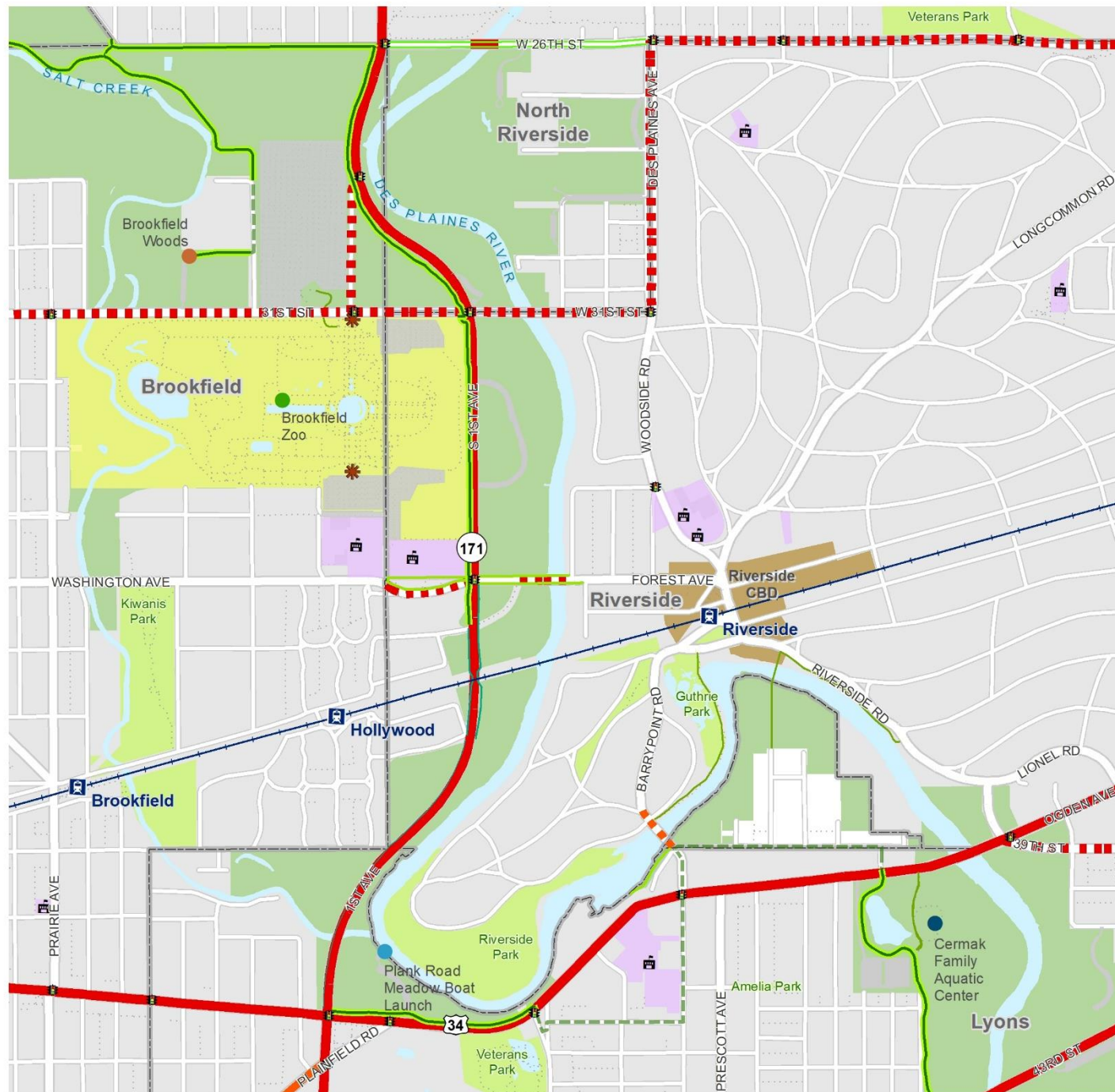






- Trail / Sidepath
- Conventional Bike Lanes
- - - - On-Street Signed Bike Route
- Wide (6-7 ft.) Sidewalk
- - - - Riverside Connector Bike Route
- - - - Regional Greenways and Trails Plan Alignment
- Sidewalk (with Planted Buffer)
- Sidewalk (Back-of-Curb)
- Select Key Pedestrian Facilities
- ✱ Zoo Entrances (for Public)
- 🏫 Schools
- 🚊 Metra Rail / Stations

## Existing Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities



### Roadway Jurisdiction

- IDOT
- - - IDOT Under Other Jurisdiction
- County
- - - County under Other Jurisdiction

### Existing Bike-Ped Facilities

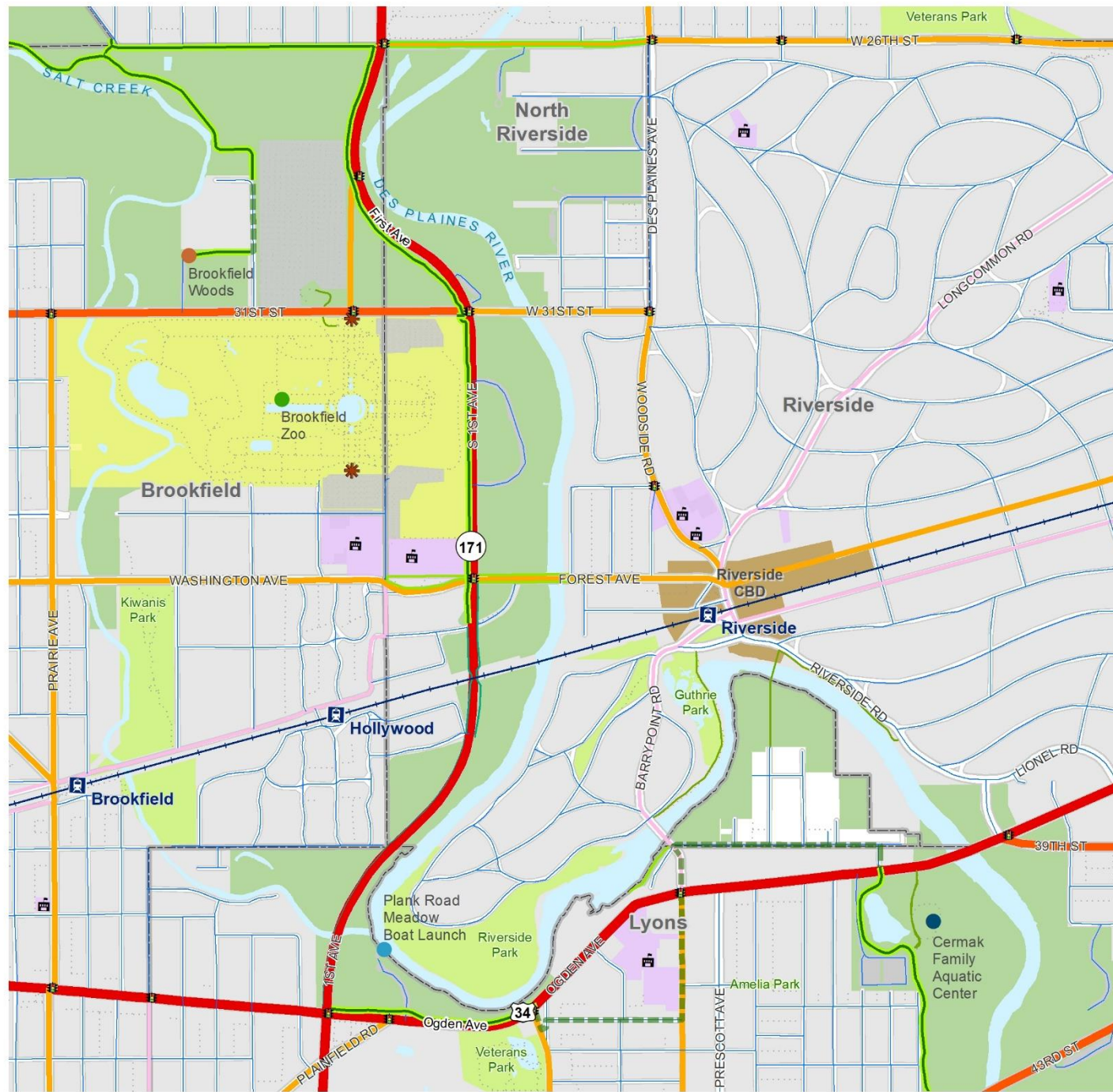
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### Miscellaneous

- ★ Zoo Entrances
- 🏠 Schools
- Metra Rail / Stations

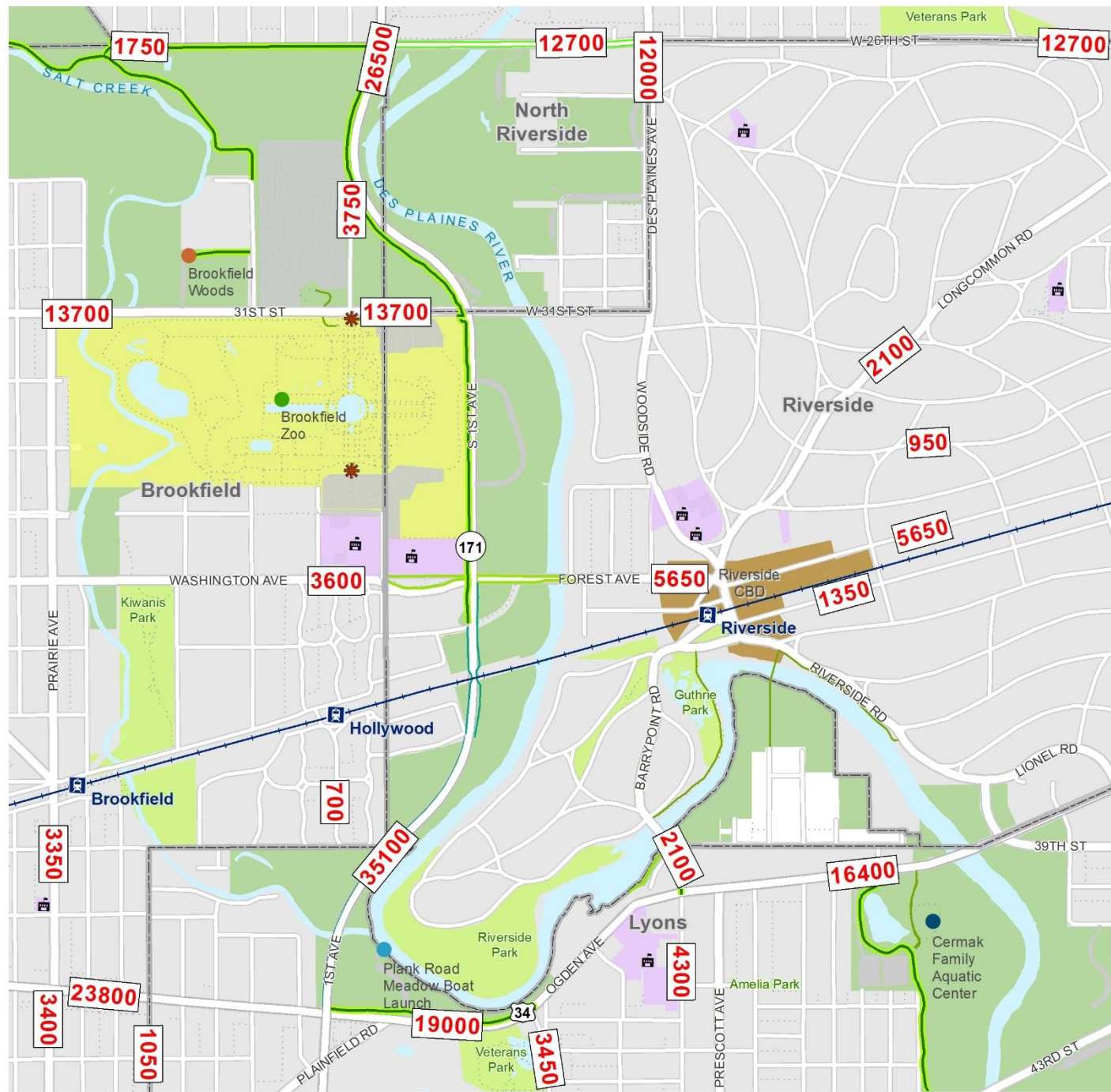
# Road Jurisdiction





# Road Classification





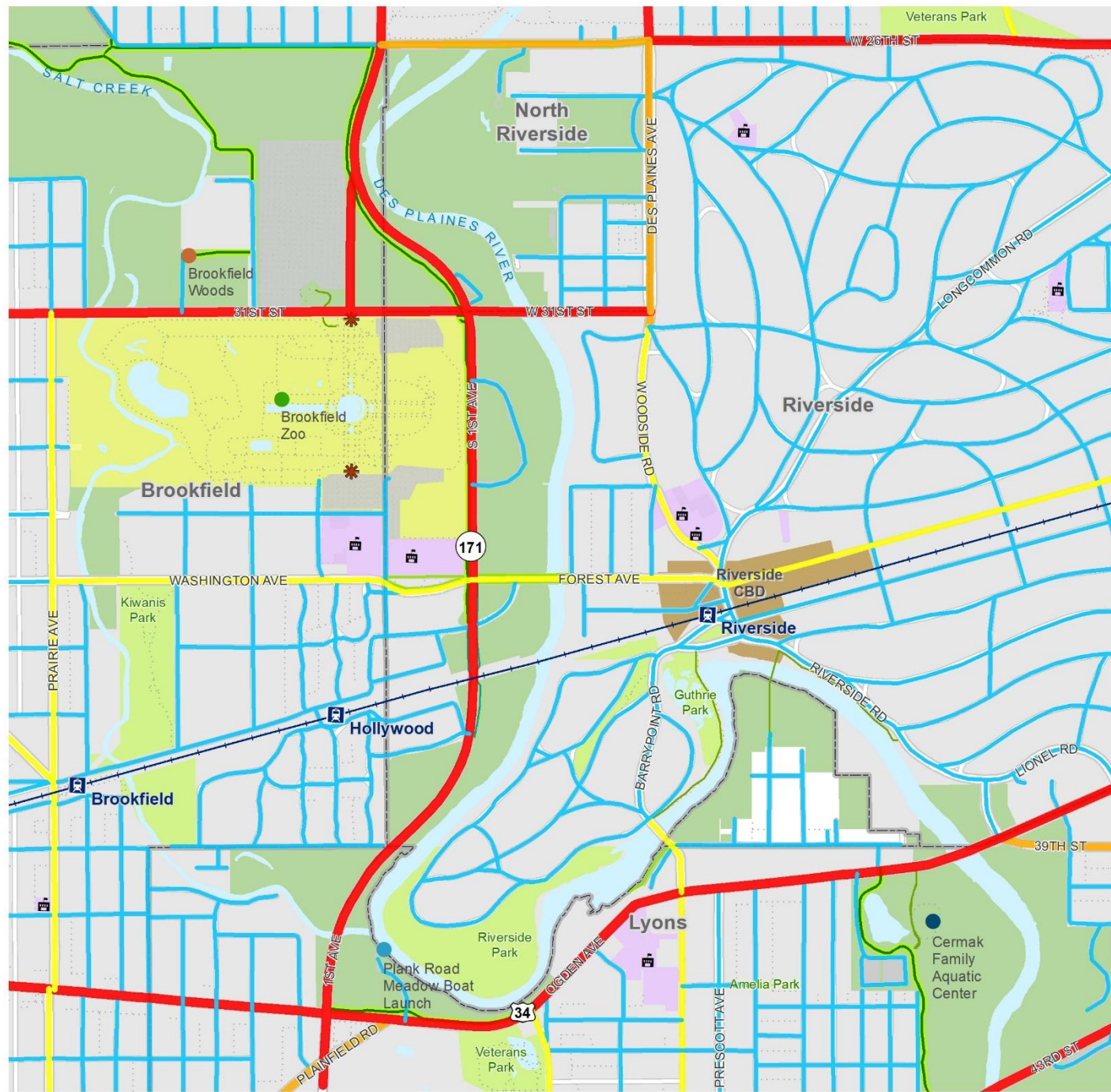
## AVERAGE ANNUALIZED DAILY TRAFFIC (AADT)

### Existing Bike-Ped Facilities

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- Conventional Bike Lanes
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- Wide (6-7 ft.) Sidewalk
- Sidewalk (Back-of-Curb)
- Select Key Pedestrian Facilities

### Miscellaneous

- ✱ Zoo Entrances
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### Level of Traffic Stress (for bicyclists in shared traffic)

- High Comfort
- Medium Comfort
- Low Comfort
- Extremely Low Comfort

### Existing Bike-Ped Facilities

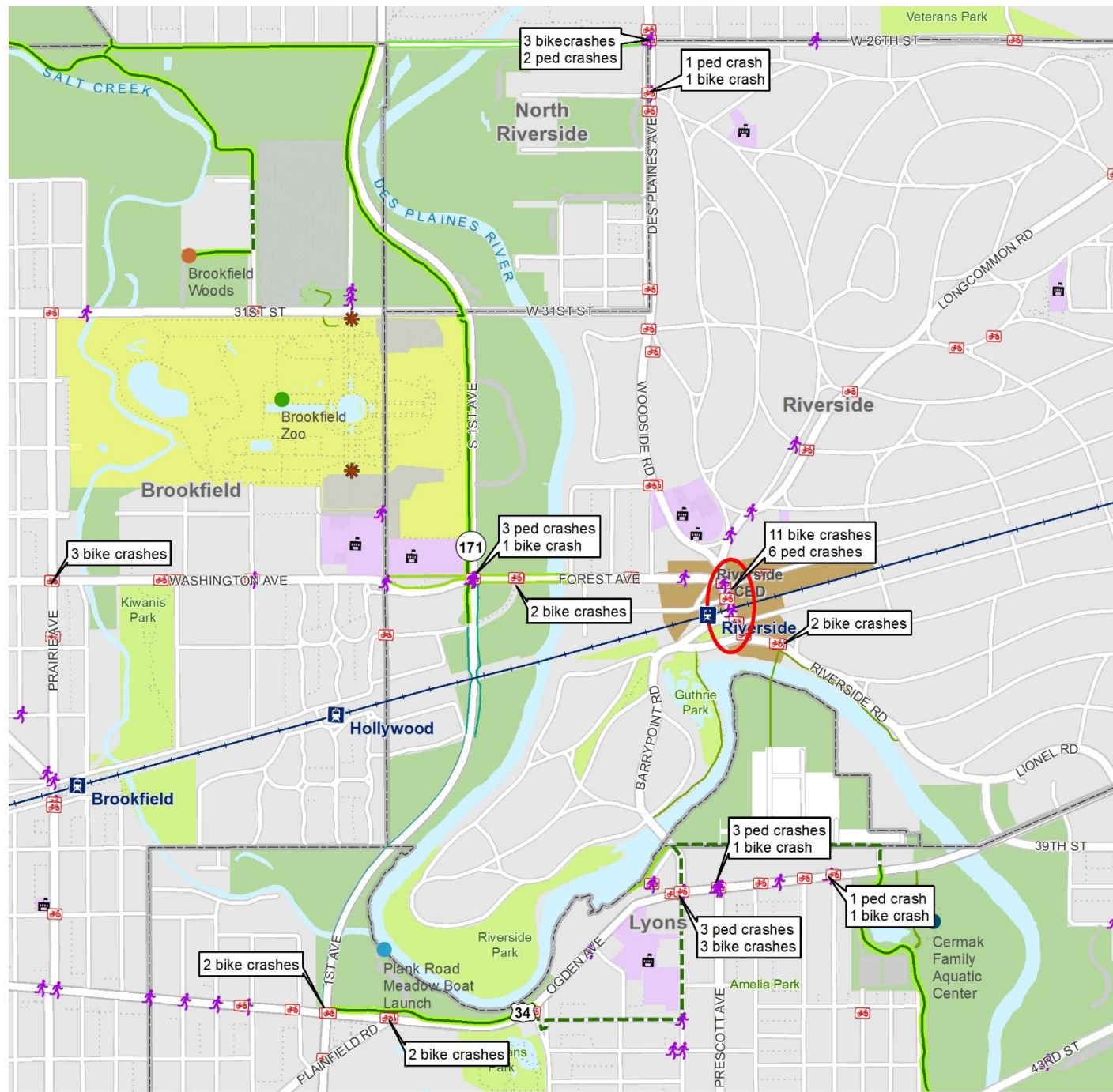
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### Miscellaneous

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# Traffic Stress Level





## Bicycle and Pedestrian Crashes (7 Years of Data, 2010-16)

- Pedestrian Crash
- Bicycle Crash

### MAP AREA:

116 Total Bicycle  
and Pedestrian Crashes  
- 66 Bicycle Crashes  
- 50 Pedestrian Crashes

22 Incapacitating Injury Crashes  
- 12 Type A Bicycle Crashes  
- 10 Type A Pedestrian Crashes

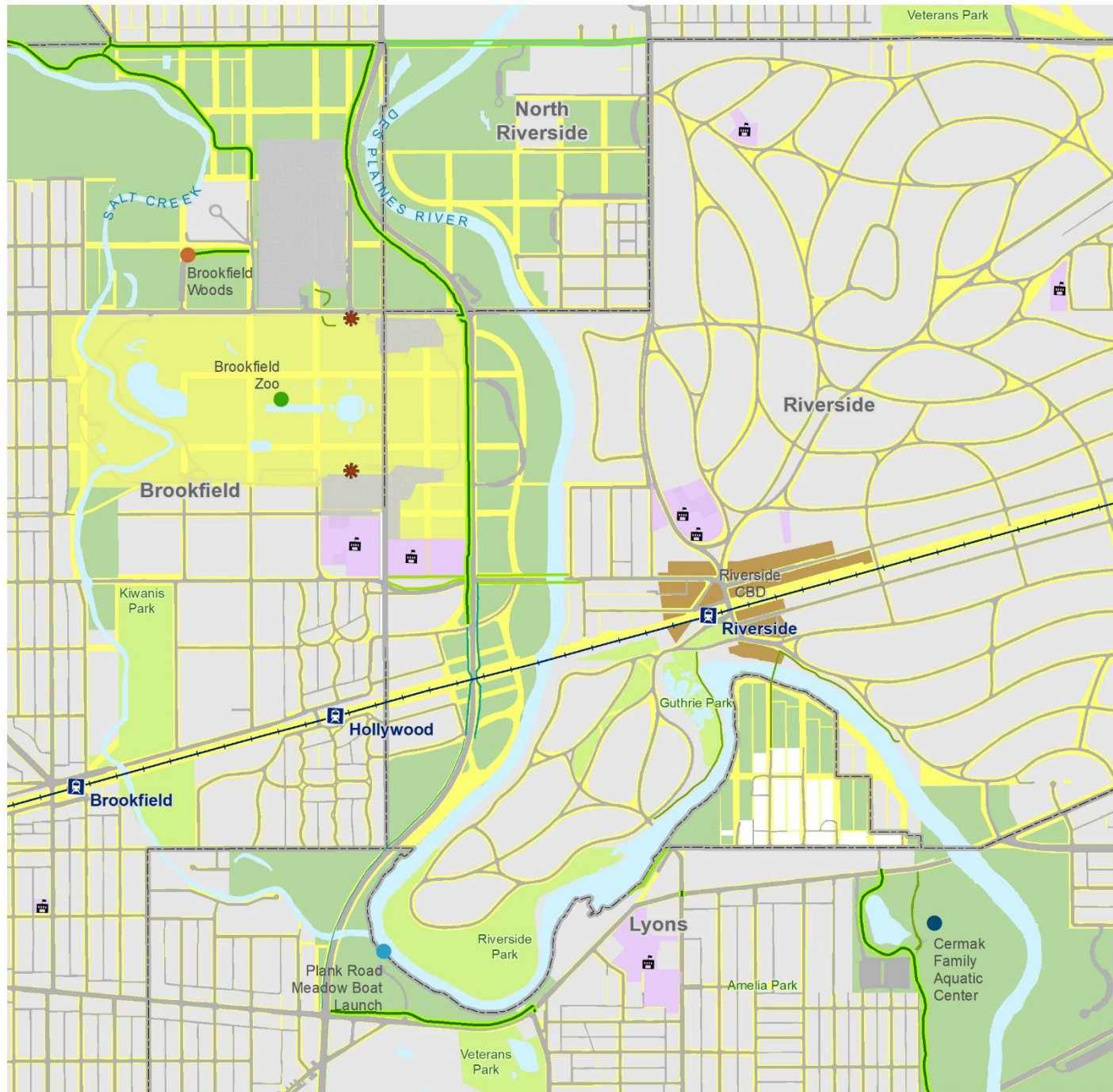
### Existing Bike-Ped Facilities

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## PAVEMENT WIDTH (ROADWAY EDGE)

VS.

## RIGHT-OF-WAY

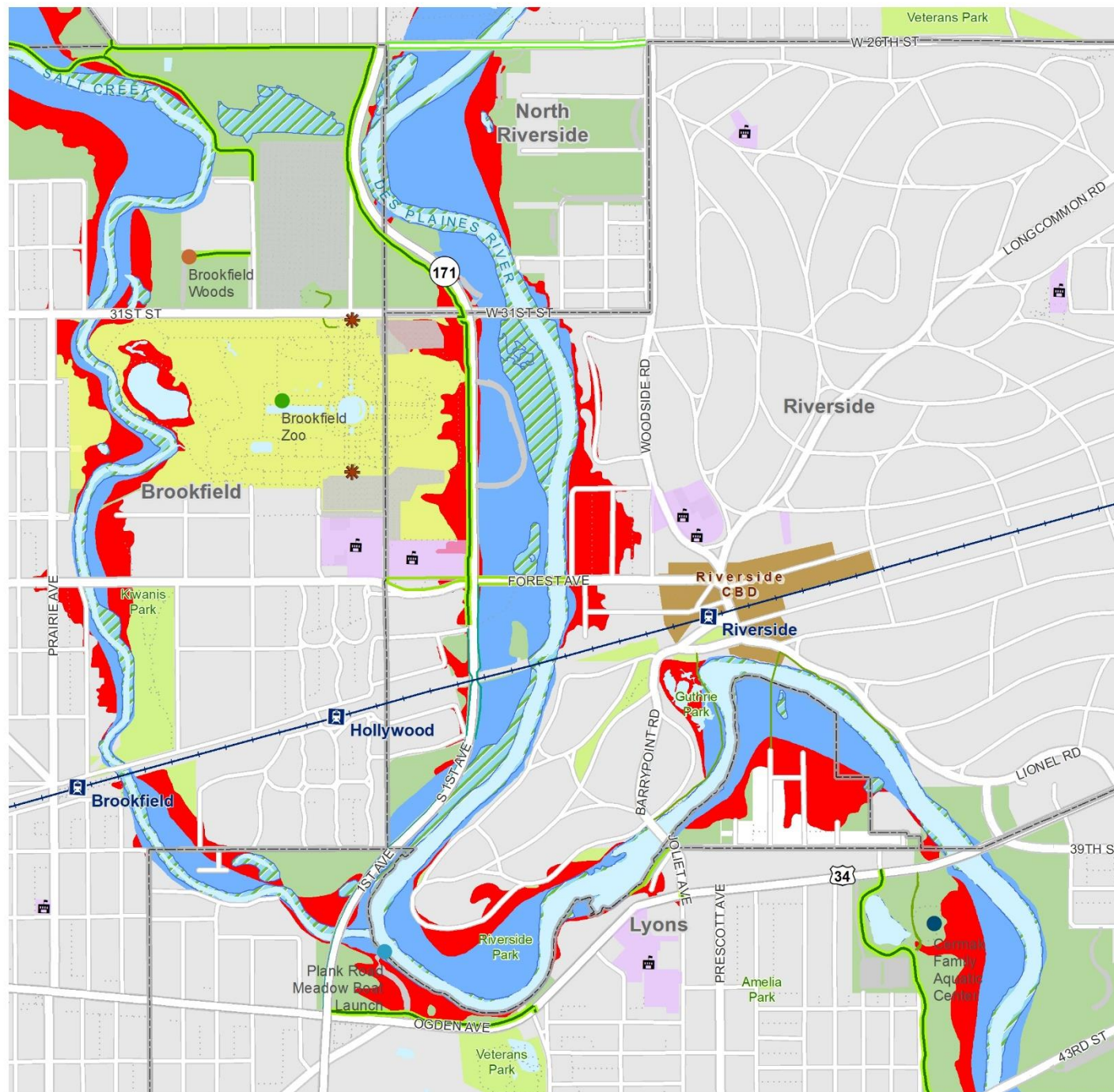
 Pavement (Grey)  
 ROW (Yellow)

### Existing Bike-Ped Facilities

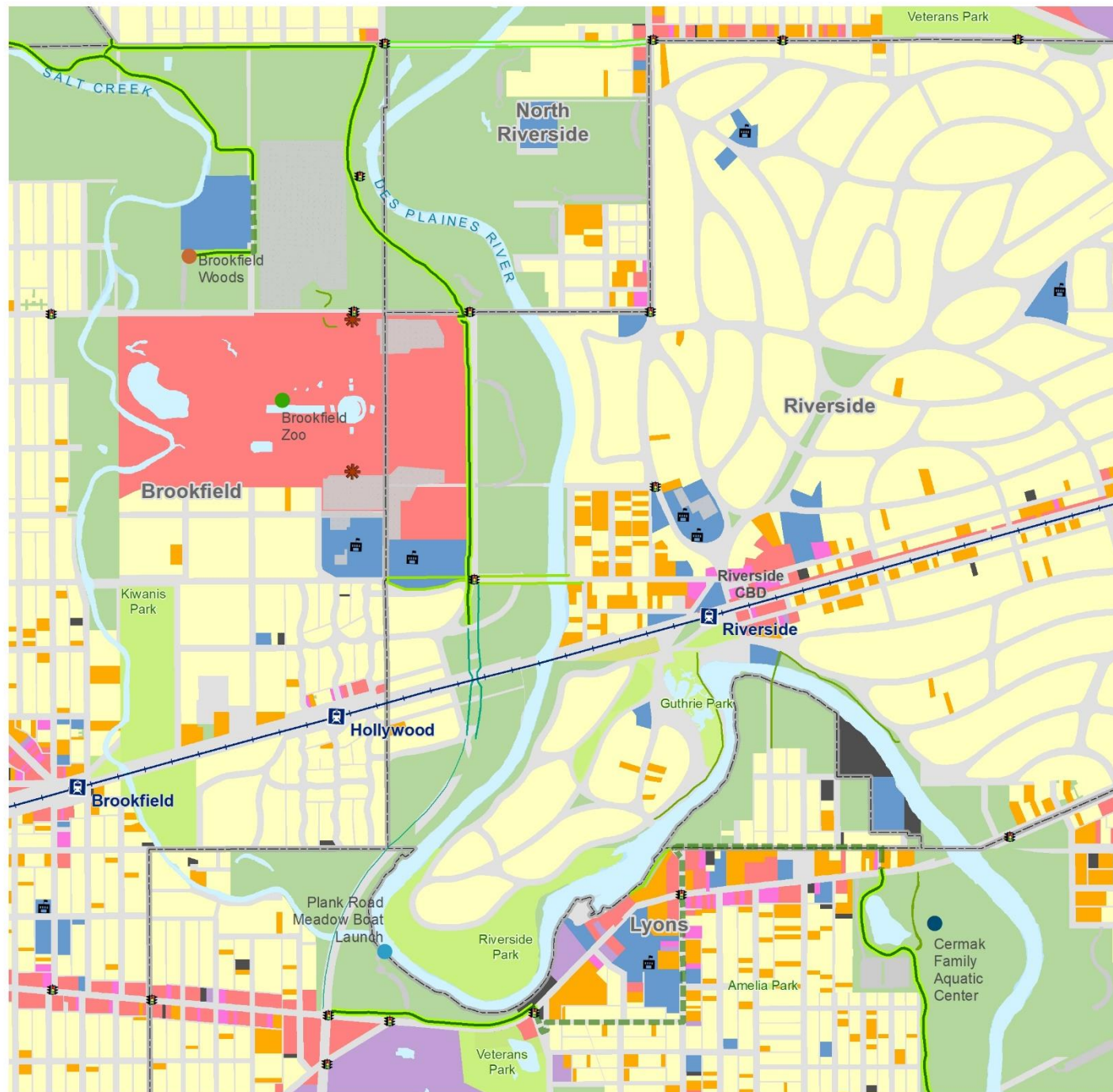
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 Select Key Pedestrian Facilities

### Miscellaneous

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## EXISTING LAND USE

- Single Family Residential
- Multi-Family Residential
- Commercial
- Urban Mix (with Residential)
- Industrial
- Institutional
- Open Space
- Water
- Transportation/Utilities/  
Communication/Other
- Under Construction
- Vacant

## Existing Bike-Ped Facilities

- Trail / Sidepath
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# Lyons - Detail

- Potential creation of trail behind parcels along Ogden Ave.
- Connects existing sidepath and Riverwalk pathway
- Avoids on-street signed route and 2 (out of 3) crossings of Ogden Ave.





# 1<sup>st</sup> Ave - Detail

- Potential extension of recently-constructed sidepath
- Questions/potential issues:
  - ROW
  - Topography
  - Flooding





# Benefits of Trails

- **Recreation**
- **Transportation**
- **Healthy Living**
- **Economics and Property Appreciation**
- **Environment and Conservation**
- **Safe and Livable Communities**



# Group Discussion

- Identify *issues and concerns*
- Identify important *destinations, as well as route opportunities*
- *Organizations or individuals* to engage
- *Events or locations* for outreach (tabling or on-trail intercept surveys)





# Next Steps

- **For Steering Committee**

- Help identify key stakeholders
- Build agency and community awareness of the planning study
- Alert planning team of any potential issues, challenges, or opportunities related to trail
- Drive attendance at public meetings and community events

- **For CMAP**

- Outreach to key stakeholders and stakeholder groups for one-on-one interviews
- Continue data collection and gathering of information on study area
- Continue existing conditions analysis and report creation



# Thank you!

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